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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 28, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ED PERLMUTTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, You were working on us before we even knew to look for You. You have put people, situations, and events in our lives to draw us to yourself, that we would come to know You and appreciate Your steadfast love for us.

Continue to open our eyes that we may see Your masterful hand at work. As we gaze about us, may we look with Your eyes to see how You are reflected in the faces of those who share in creation with us.

Give us the insight to understand how certain challenges we have faced have strengthened us to serve You better, to understand that our pain has given us empathy that we would be better suited to attend to the suffering of others.

Enable us to seize the opportunities You have put before us that allow us to participate in Your creative purpose, to appreciate and respect Your willingness to trust us with your handiwork.

In responding to You, may we prove to be good and faithful stewards in the care and tending of the gracious gifts we have received by Your hand.

We offer this prayer in Your most holy name.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COHEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will take this occasion to update the Speaker's announced policies of January 4, 2021, regarding the requirement to wear masks in the Hall of the House during the coronavirus pandemic.

Consistent with updated guidance from the Attending Physician, the Chair wishes to inform Members that masks are no longer required in the Hall of the House. The Chair would further note that all Members and staff may continue to wear masks at their discretion. This announcement is incorporated within the policy on conduct during a covered period of January 4, 2021, and supersedes all other announced policies that are in conflict.

The Chair appreciates the attention of Members to this matter and expects Members to continue to respect the health and safety of other Members and staff during this ongoing pandemic.

demic, including by following current and future guidance of the Attending Physician with respect to masks, social distancing, and other COVID-related health and safety protocols.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

SUPPORTING PRESIDENT ZELENSKY

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, last week, I led a bipartisan group to visit Lithuania and the OSCE meeting in Vienna, Austria.

In Lithuania, we met with the leaders and assured them of America's Article 5 responsibilities and commitments in case Russia comes into Lithuania. They are very concerned.

We met with our troops, who are 6 kilometers away from Russian troops stationed in Belarus. We then went to the OSCE in Vienna, and we led a strong response to support Ukraine and oppose an unbelievable invasion by the cruel Vladimir Putin.

The European community is united, except for Russia and Belarus, in opposing the intrusion. Vladimir Putin is not operating in a rational manner. His KGB history and his extreme response to COVID have driven him to a delusional, paranoid, and dangerous state. It concerns all.

I appreciate the actions of our President in supporting our country. I support President Zelensky, who is the Maccabee of his era, but the candle has only lasted so long. We need to get him more oil.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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